

**Amendment and Response**

Applicant: Christophe Desard

Serial No.: 10/634,300

Filed: August 5, 2003

Docket No.: 57474US013

Title: SEALED AND ADAPTABLE CABLE BUSHING WITH EASY CABLE POSITIONING AND SLEEVE EQUIPPED WITH SUCH A BUSHING

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**REMARKS**

This Response replies to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2004, in which claims 1 to 22 were rejected. With this Response, no claims are amended. Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 23 to 26 have been previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention.

**§ 102 Rejections**

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Laeremans et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,775,702). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding independent claim 1, Laeremans et al. is alleged to disclose a cable bushing comprising: a first compression part 3a; a second compression part 3b, offset in a longitudinal direction from the first compression part 3a; at least one opening 11 in said first compression part 3a and at least one corresponding opening 11 in said second compression part 3b; sealing means located between said first compression part 3a and said second compression part 3b; and compression means 7a, 7b for moving said first compression part 3a and said second compression part 3b towards one another in the longitudinal direction to compress said sealing means 5; wherein said first compression part 3a and said second compression part 3b each comprise at least one piece that is movable to provide access individually to said respective opening 11.

The characterization of Laeremans et al. as presented in the Office Action is respectfully traversed. Independent claim 1 recites, in part, “wherein said first compression part and said second compression part each comprise, for each of said at least one openings therein, at least one piece that is movable to provide access individually to said respective opening.” **Laeremans et al. fails to teach or suggest for each opening, at least one piece that is movable to provide access individually to said respective opening.** Rather, Laeremans et al. teaches a device which may be opened to provide simultaneous access to all of the openings. In fact, it is not possible to access an opening individually in the device of Laeremans et al. This can clearly be seen in Figures 1-4.

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Further, the specification of Laeremans et al. clearly states at column 8, lines 56-62, that both the sealing device 25 and the adapter 1 are “wrap-around” devices, the sealing device 25 having two outer portions which are hinged in the region indicated by the numerals 41 and which are fastened in the closed region indicated by the numeral 42. Similarly, the adapter 1 can be seen in its fully opened configuration in Figures 1-4, with hinged portions 9 holding the segments together. It is not possible to open either the adapter 1 or the sealing device 25 of Laeremans et al. so as to **individually** access an opening in either the adapter 1 or the sealing device 25. For at least this reason, Laeremans et al. fails to anticipate the subject matter of independent claim 1, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) should be withdrawn.

Independent claim 18 is also alleged to be anticipated by Laeremans et al. However, independent claim 18, like independent claim 1 discussed above, recites, in part, “wherein said first compression part and said compression part each comprise, for each of said openings therein, a respective movable piece that is movable to provide access individually to each of said respective openings.” Accordingly, the remarks presented above with respect to independent claim 1 are equally applicable to independent claim 18. **That is, Laeremans et al. fails to anticipate or suggest a movable piece for each opening that is movable to provide access individually to each of said respective openings.** For at least this reason, independent claim 18 is not anticipated by Laeremans et al., and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-17 and 19-22 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of independent claims 1 and 18. As discussed above, independent claims 1 and 18 are not anticipated by Laeremans et al. and are in allowable condition. For at least this reason, dependent claims 2-17 and 19-22 are also in allowable condition, and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

For at least the reasons provided above, the rejection of claims 1-22 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Laeremans et al (5,775,702) has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Please charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500471.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Matthew B. McNutt at Telephone No. (512) 231-0531, Facsimile No. (512) 231-0540 or James Trussell at Telephone No. (512) 984-4672, Facsimile No. (512) 984-2020. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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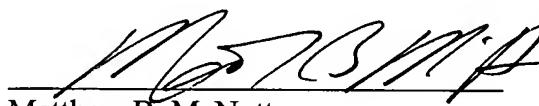
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